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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/697,206 | 10/26/2000 | Daniel E.H. Afar | G&C 129.21-US-U1 | 3714 |

22462 7590 05/07/2002

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EXAMINER

DAVIS, MINH TAM B

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1642

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
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| EXAMINER |
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See attached

The amendment filed on 02/08/02 canceling claims 1-28, 31, 35-43 and adding new claims 44-61 is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03). Applicant elects group X, claim 29. However, only group XI comprises claim 29. Applicant further asserts that should the restriction requirement in view of Applicant arguments is maintained, the claims of group X, which reads on this election are claims 30, 32, 34, 50-51 and 56-57. Thus it is not clear whether Applicant elects group X or group XI.

Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MINH-TAM DAVIS whose telephone number is 703-305-2008. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, ANTHONY CAPUTA can be reached on 703-308-3995. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-872-9307 for After Final communications.

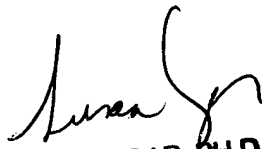
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Art Unit: 1642

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0916.

MINH TAM DAVIS
May 4, 2002



SUSAN UNGAR, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER